

REMARKS

As previously requested, please direct future correspondence regarding this application as follows:

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Claims 1 and 4-17 are pending. Claims 1, 4-7, 10, and 12 have been amended, claims 2-3 and claims 18-25 have been previously canceled. Reexamination and reconsideration of the present application are respectfully requested.

In the August 14, 2003 Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 4-17. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 15, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,538,320 to Tosaya ("the Tosaya reference"). The Examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. The Examiner rejected claims 5-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over the Tosaya reference in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,469,381 to Houle et al. ("the Houle reference"). The Examiner rejected claims 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over the Lin reference in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,931,222 to Toy et al. ("the Toy reference"). The Examiner rejected claims 14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over the Tosaya reference in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,849,856 to Funari et al. ("the Funari reference"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to an integrated heat spreader that is constructed and arranged to be adhesively affixed, with a sealant, to at least a portion of

a component, such as a substrate. Claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitation that the heat spreader has a plurality of step portions adjacent to the lip portion. Specifically, independent claim 1 now recites:

An Integrated heat spreader constructed and arranged to be adhesively affixed, with a sealant, to at least a portion of a component, comprising:

a body portion;

a solid continuous lip portion substantially vertically oriented relative to the body portion; and

a plurality of step portions adjacent to the lip portion, wherein the plurality of step portions are spaced apart by a plurality of cutouts.

In the Examiner's Final Office Action dated August 14, 2003, the Examiner stated that claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by the Tosaya reference. The Tosaya reference discloses a integrated heat spreader that has a flange that extends from the sidewalls continuously about a periphery of the upper portion and has a plurality of holes.

The Tosaya reference does not teach, suggest, or disclose the method of independent claim 1, as amended. Unlike independent claim 1, the Hite reference does not make any mention of

a plurality of step portions adjacent to the lip portion, wherein the plurality of step portions are spaced apart by a plurality of cutouts.

Similarly, the Lin, Toy, and Funari references cannot make up for the deficiencies of the Tosaya reference. Thus, the Applicant believes independent claim 1 and the

claims that depend therefrom are allowable.

Claim 4 has been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112.

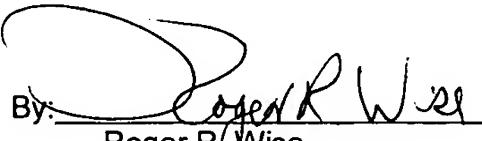
Claims 4-7, 10, and 12 have been amended to reflect a change in antecedent basis needed in said claims after the amendment to claim 1 from which they depend.

Claims 4-17 all depend, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 1, as amended. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 4-17 distinguish over the above-cited references for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claims 1, as amended.

Applicant believes that the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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